

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 01102

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GW, US

SUBJECT: US/FRG POLICY PLANNING TALKS

REF: STATE 12862 (NOTAL)

1. KLAUS BLECH HAS TOLD THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR THAT MARCH 15 AND 16 WOULD REPRESENT THE MOST CONVENIENT TIMES FROM HIS STANDPOINT FOR PLANNING STAFF TALKS IN GERMANY. HE IS ALSO DELIGHTED THAT MR. LORD AND OTHER AMERICANS WILL BE ABLE TO VISIT BERLIN ON MARCH 17.

2. IF MARCH IS IMPOSSIBLE FROM OUR STANDPOINT, BLECH WOULD BE PREPARED TO SCHEDULE THE MEETING IN MAY, BUT HE BELIEVES IT WOULD BE BETTER TO HAVE THE MEETING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE MAY DATE WOULD EXCLUDE A VISIT TO BERLIN BECAUSE FEW BERLINERS WOULD BE IN THE CITY OVER ASCENSION WEEKEND.

3. WITH REGARD TO THE AGENDA ITEMS, BLECH ACCEPTS OUR SUGGESTIONS IN PARA 4 REFTEL. HE SAID THE GERMANS MIGHT WISH TO ADD ABOUT HALF AN HOUR OF INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA. UNDER THE GENERAL HEADING OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS, THE GERMANS MIGHT ALSO WISH TO TAKE SOME TIME TO OUTLINE THE FRG VIEW ON THE GERMAN SITUATION AND ON GERMAN POLICY IN THE EAST-WEST CONTEXT. BLECH ALSO SAID THAT HE WAS THINKING INFORMALLY AND IN A VERY TENTATIVE WAY THAT
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IT MIGHT BE GOOD TO EXCHANGE IDEAS ABOUT THE CONNEC-

TION BETWEEN EAST-WEST AND NORTH-SOUTH PROBLEMS, BUT HE IS NOT YET READY TO PROPOSE THAT AS A FORMAL AGENDA ITEM.

4. BLECH SAID THAT, SINCE HE HAS NOT HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE TALKS HERE WITH THE AMERICAN SIDE, HE WOULD WELCOME LORD'S SUGGESTIONS ON ORGANIZATION OF THE AGENDA AND ON SEQUENCE OF TOPICS. HE HOPES THAT THE AMERICAN DELEGATION CAN ARRIVE ON SUNDAY, MARCH 14 SO THAT THE 15TH AND MUCH OF THE 16TH CAN BE USED FOR TALKS IN BONN. THEN, IN THE LATE AFTERNOON OF THE 16TH, THE AMERICAN GROUP MIGHT GO TO BERLIN IN ORDER TO CONTINUE THE CONVERSATIONS THERE ON THE 17TH. DURING THE BERLIN TALKS, BLECH SAID, HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE SOME PARTICIPATION BY FRG OFFICIALS WORKING WITH THE GDR.

5. THE DATES PROPOSED IN REFTEL ARE FULLY ACCEPTABLE TO THE EMBASSY. WE HOPE IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR AN EMBASSY OFFICER TO SIT IN ON THE DISCUSSIONS.
HILLENBRAND

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